

CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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July 16, 2019

The Honorable Anna Eshoo United States House of Representatives 202 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 530 (Eshoo) Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019

Dear Representative Eshoo:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of H.R. 530 (Eshoo) Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019. In September 2018, the FCC adopted regulations that limit the authority of cities and states to regulate small cell sites needed to deploy 5G wireless infrastructure. The FCC issued these regulations without sufficient input from local leaders, which means that cities like Long Beach are restricted from requiring carriers installing small cell infrastructure to meet the needs of local communities.

The FCC's one-size-fits-all approach preempts existing state and local policies that set context-specific fees for profit-generating uses of public property, such as small cell sites. H.R. 530 proposes to repeal the FCC's recent actions. The City has a history of embracing technology to enhance City services. For example, the UpLink project in North Long Beach activated utility poles with security cameras and free wireless, improving public safety outcomes and bridging the digital divide for local residents. H.R. 530's repeal of the FCC's overreaching regulations is a critical step that would allow the City to pursue similar efforts moving forward.

The City supports deployment of new smart city technology, such as broadband and 5G wireless infrastructure. However, it is imperative this deployment be safe and appropriate for our diverse neighborhoods and residents. H.R. 530 would allow the City to develop mutually-beneficial agreements, requirements, and fee structures with wireless providers in exchange for use of publicly-owned small cell sites. It allows the City to maintain local control over rights-of-way and reinforces our ability to collect fair compensation for use City infrastructure.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports H.R. 530 (Eshoo).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein

The Honorable Senator Kamala Harris

The Honorable Congressmember Alan Lowenthal, 47th District The Honorable Congressmember Nanette Barragan, 44th District